

REMARKS

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Abstract has been amended.

There are no formal matters outstanding.

Claims 1-6 were originally presented for examination.

Claims 7-15 are new.

Claims 1-6 were rejected as obvious over NEWELL 4,382,743 in view of ANDUO et al. (Development of ..., 1998).

In order for the claims to be rendered obvious, the reasonable combination of these two references must teach or suggest each feature of the invention.

Claim 1 is directed to an apparatus having telescopic arms for transfer of loads. More specifically, the claim requires 1) a first telescopic arm exhibiting a lower portion which is rotatably constrained about a first horizontal hinge axis arranged on a support base associated to a frame of a vehicle, and 2) a second telescopic arm associated to an upper portion of the first telescopic arm.

From these two recitations, it is clear that a first **telescopic** arm and a second **telescopic** arm are required.

As is acknowledged by the Official Action, NEWELL fails to teach a second telescopic arm (OA page 2, last two lines).

ANDOU has been offered as disclosing "a second telescopic arm associated to an upper portion of the first telescopic arm". In support of this asserted disclosure, ANDOU Figures 2-3 and pages 49-52 were offered.

Unfortunately, the Official Action has not indicated what elements of ANDOU are believed to make the asserted disclosure. Absent an indication of what elements of ANDOU are believed to disclose the recited features, the rejection is not supported and should be withdrawn or a new non-final rejection made in which the specific elements of ANDOU, upon which the claim is thought to read, are identified.

The first telescopic arm recitation would read on boom 1 (a first telescopic arm exhibiting a lower portion which is rotatably constrained about a first horizontal hinge axis arranged on a support base associated to a frame of a vehicle).

It appears that the second telescopic arm is being read onto winch arm 4 of ANDOU. But this would not meet the claim's recitations.

Winch arm 4 is not a telescopic arm as it does not telescope. The winch arm 4 cannot lengthen or shorten in the horizontal direction in order to move along the direction of the support group of a load (e.g., chucking head).

Further winch arm 4 is not rotatably constrained to the upper portion of the first telescopic arm about a second

horizontal hinge axis which is parallel to the first hinge axis, and does not comprises a second motor for rotating the second telescopic arm about the second horizontal hinge axis.

The parallel link structure with hydraulic cylinders is not a telescopic arm. This arrangement appears to place or hold the winch arm in a horizontal position and does not displace an end support group of a load in order to transfer the load.

Accordingly, the obviousness rejection is not believed to be viable. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 1 and the dependent claims are respectfully requested.

New claims 7-15 is believed patentable, at least for these same reasons and for more specifically reciting aspects of the features discussed above.

Reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

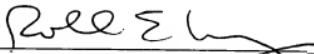
The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

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overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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REL/mjr

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APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following item(s):

- an amended Abstract of the Disclosure